



National Agricultural Statistics Service

Hawaii Agricultural Statistics Service
Hawaii Department of Agriculture

Hawaii Ginger Root

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Lowest output in 8 seasons

Statistics page 2

Acres harvested, yield, production, average farm prices, and total farm value from 1953.

Hawaii ginger root trends page 3

30-year trends for farm price, farm value, and harvested acres.

Outlook for next season page 3

Acres expected to be harvested during the 2003/2004 season.

U.S. imports of ginger root during 2002 page 4

Annual imports of ginger root by product type and country of origin.

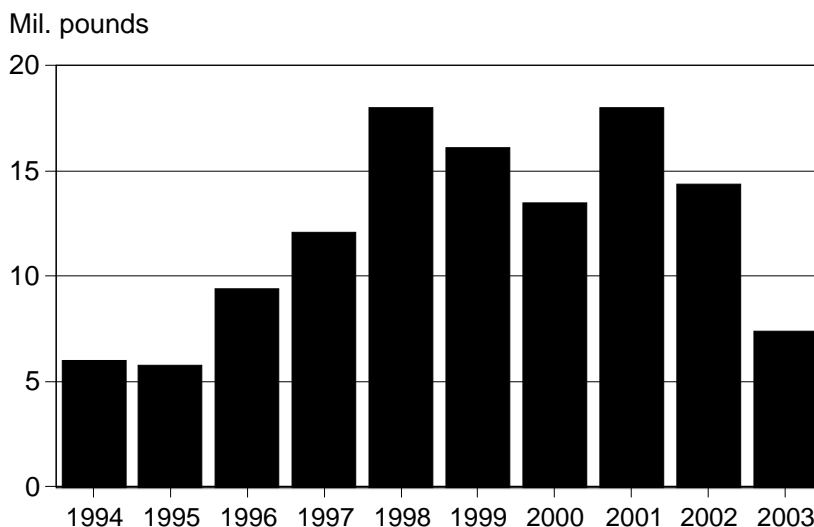
Hawaii's ginger root farmers harvested 7.4 million pounds during the 2002/03 season, down 49 percent from the previous season. Farm prices doubled to an average of 60.0 cents per pound during the 2002/2003 season, and total farm revenues increased 3 percent to \$4.4 million.

Disease and low prices most often cited by farmers for low production

Untimely showers once again hampered ginger root harvesting in the windward areas of Hawaii island and fostered the proliferation of disease. Losses due to bacterial wilt varied by location, but the disease was mainly responsible for lowering the overall Statewide yield to an average of 37,000 pounds per acre, the lowest average in 10 years. Farmers also cited relatively low prices as a deterrent to harvesting and planting ginger root despite a general rise in farm prices from the previous season.

Farm prices ranged from 35 cents per pound to over 50 cents per pound during the 2002/03 season for regular ginger root, compared to as low as 20 cents per pound in the previous season. Statewide, the average farm price doubled to 60 cents per pound largely due to higher returns received by organic growers. Farm revenues increased 3 percent from the 2001/02 season to \$4.4 million, but this was still the second lowest total in the past 19 seasons. ■

Production of Fresh Hawaii Ginger Root
State of Hawaii, 1994-2003



Hawaii Fresh Ginger Root Statistics

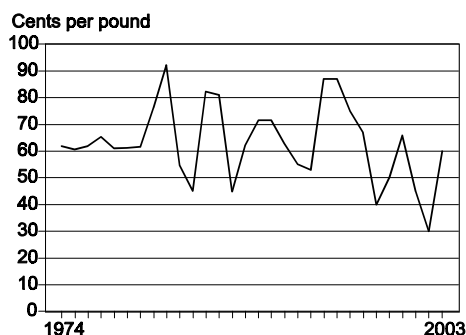
Acres harvested, yield per harvested acre, production, average farm price, and farm value
State of Hawaii, 1953 to 2003

Year ^{1/}	Acres harvested	Yield per harvested acre	Production	Average farm price	Farm value
		----- 1,000 pounds -----		Cents per pound	\$1,000
1953	13	43.5	565	28.8	163
1954	20	40.2	805	21.5	173
1955	20	39.2	785	19.5	150
1956	22	34.5	760	22.1	168
1957	17	33.5	570	25.3	144
1958	15	32.7	490	39.2	192
1959	25	29.2	730	24.4	178
1960	32	28.3	905	19.7	178
1961	27	25.2	680	23.8	162
1962	21	17.1	360	40.0	144
1963	17	22.6	385	30.6	118
1964	25	26.2	655	18.5	121
1965	15	35.0	525	23.4	123
1966	14	35.0	490	28.4	139
1967	19	37.9	720	28.3	204
1968	19	37.1	705	26.0	183
1969	21	40.0	840	28.9	243
1970	21	39.3	820	29.4	241
1971	23	40.2	925	27.5	254
1972	17	29.4	500	41.8	209
1973	13	39.6	515	68.7	354
1974	11	32.0	352	61.9	218
1975	22	36.0	793	60.7	481
1976	18	36.1	650	61.8	402
1977	39	28.5	1,110	65.4	726
1978	55	24.4	1,340	61.1	819
1979	75	24.8	1,860	61.2	1,138
1980	40	40.8	1,610	61.7	1,090
1981	64	44.7	2,860	76.2	2,179
1982	100	36.3	3,630	92.3	3,350
1983	160	32.1	5,140	54.6	2,806
1984	135	37.4	5,050	45.1	2,280
1985	125	43.4	5,425	82.3	4,465
1986	145	40.7	5,900	81.0	4,779
1987	215	46.7	10,050	45.0	4,523
1988	165	49.1	8,100	62.0	5,022
1989	180	50.0	9,000	71.5	6,435
1990	190	50.0	9,500	71.5	6,792
1991	250	48.0	12,000	63.0	7,560
1992	290	40.0	11,600	55.0	6,380
1993	360	27.5	9,900	53.0	5,247
1994	150	40.0	6,000	87.0	5,220
1995	135	43.0	5,800	87.0	5,046
1996	200	47.0	9,400	75.0	7,050
1997	275	44.0	12,100	67.0	8,107
1998	360	50.0	18,000	40.0	7,200
1999	350	46.0	16,100	50.0	8,050
2000	270	50.0	13,500	66.0	8,910
2001	360	50.0	18,000	45.0	8,100
2002	320	45.0	14,400	30.0	4,320
2003	200	37.0	7,400	60.0	4,440

^{1/} Harvesting normally begins in December and continues into the year shown.

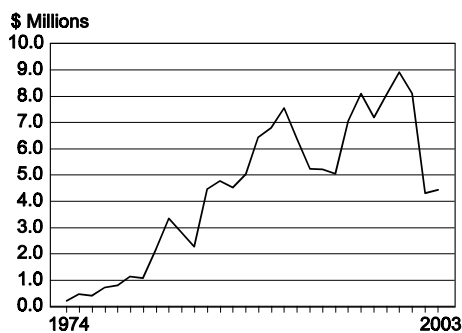
Hawaii ginger root 30-year trends

Farm prices



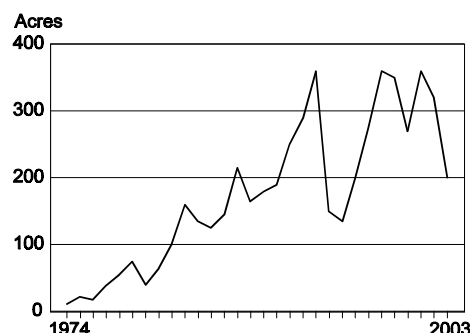
Farm prices have moved up and down between the 1973/74 and 2002/03 seasons. These shifts in farm prices were generally the result of changes in local production as well as foreign competition in the export market. The longest sustained period of increasing farm prices was from 1979 to 1982 which culminated in a still record high farm price of 92.3 cents per pound. ■

Farm value



Farm value grew at an average annual rate of 11 percent over the past 30 seasons. Most of the growth in farm revenues were in the '70s and '80s when increasing production usually more than offset fluctuating farm prices. Recently, however, farm revenues have fallen as market prices dropped significantly due to increased imports of relatively inexpensive ginger root from China. ■

Harvested acres



Harvested acreage decreased 38 percent during the 2002/03 season, the largest percentage decline in 9 seasons. In 1993, the State Department of Agriculture declared a formal emergency for Big Island ginger root growers due to "a devastating setback" from bacterial wilt. As a result, harvested acreage dropped 58 percent the following season and another 10 percent the during the 1994/95 season. ■

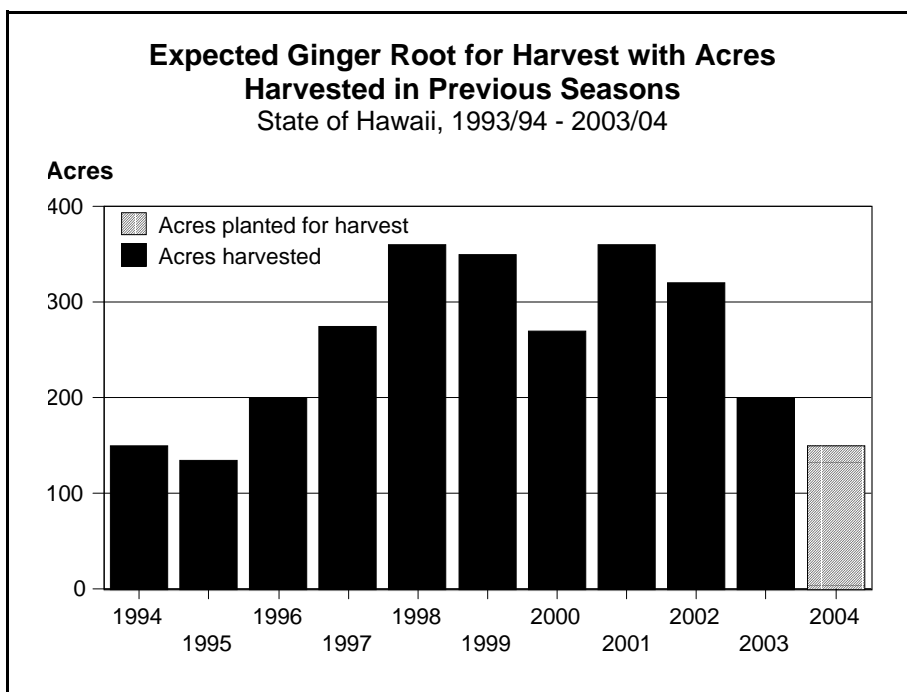
Hawaii ginger root 2003/04 season outlook

Harvested acreage expected to decrease in upcoming season

Hawaii ginger root growers are expected to plant 150 acres for harvest during the 2003/04 season, down 25 percent from the 200 acres harvested in the 2002/03 season.

Based on the most recent 3-year average yield of 45,200 pounds per harvested acre, the 2003/04 crop would result in a harvest of 6.78 million pounds, down 8 percent from the 2002/03 season. The eventual harvest, however, will depend on weather and economic conditions in the ensuing months.

Latest reports indicate that plantings in the eastern sections of Hawaii island continued to make good progress. Adequate soil moisture and longer daylight hours were resulting in good growth. Disease and insect incidence was reportedly light. ■



The Hawaii Agricultural Statistics Service publishes weekly updates on the progress of the 2003/04 ginger root crop in the **Hawaii Crop Weather** report which is also available on the internet at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/hi/>.

U.S. Imports of Ginger Root

Year	Type of Ginger Root				Total
	Ground	Not Ground	Preserved	Sweet	
2002 by Country			pounds		
Australia		543,998	766,727		1,310,725
Brazil	184,743	5,032,749			5,217,492
Canada				225,614	225,614
China	1,498,520	27,467,579	753,673	2,402,681	32,122,453
Costa Rica		2,838,484			2,838,484
Ecuador		490,572			490,572
Federal Rep. of Germany	17,868	1,960			19,828
Fiji		122,031	202,250		324,281
Honduras		219,126			219,126
Hong Kong		521,507	122,170	96,337	740,014
India	352,211	727,284		36,380	1,115,875
Indonesia			416,837		416,837
Jamaica	4,004				4,004
Japan	82,783	8,545			91,328
Netherlands		39,996		1,984	41,980
Nicaragua		723,530			723,530
Nigeria		409,705			409,705
Singapore		22,266	15,146		37,412
South Africa		361,828			361,828
Thailand	62,024	4,741,629	712,439	428,155	5,944,247
United Kingdom	41,072	8,538	6,717	108,120	164,447
All others	489	24,980	21,397	15,413	62,279
Total	2,243,714	44,306,307	3,017,356	3,314,684	52,882,061
2001	2,255,334	39,681,693	2,150,953	2,649,343	46,737,324
2000	824,896	41,140,065	2,079,714	2,845,011	46,889,686
1999	668,529	33,679,098	1,999,925	2,058,839	38,406,391
1998	562,744	30,374,619	1,512,118	1,815,909	34,265,390

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce